

STIFF RESISTANCE RETARDS ADVANCE OF ALLIED ARMIES

Enemy Puts Up Stubborn Defense in Most Critical Sectors.

MOST VICIOUS FIGHTING WEST OF MEUSE RIVER

French Progress Two to Three Miles Northeast of Laon.

AMERICANS TAKE BRIEULLES

Field Marshal Haig Continues Successful Drives North and South of Valenciennes.

(By Associated Press.)
The allied armies in France and Belgium are still driving the Germans toward their border, but the process is now comparatively slow. On the sectors that are requisite to the stability of the entire German line—where a crash through probably would mean the immediate collapse of the whole of the defensive system—the most stubborn resistance is being offered by the enemy, and what gains are being made by the allies are virtually foot by foot in the face of the horns of the battle line—the machine guns.

GERMANS OF AUSTRIA FORM OWN ASSEMBLY

Deputies in Austrian Reichsrath Constitute Themselves National Legislative Body.

SEEK ACCESS TO ADRIATIC

Will Act for Peace—Teutonic Population Largest Single Group in Monarchy, Being About One-Third of Total.

(By Associated Press.)
BASEL, October 23.—The German-Austrian deputies in the Austrian Reichsrath have formed an assembly for the purpose of conducting the affairs of the German people in Austria and have issued a declaration announcing the creation of the "German State of Austria" and the formation of a national assembly.

SPANISH INFLUENZA ECLIPSING IN CITY

Death Rate High in Proportion to New Cases Officially Listed.

TO BE NO LET-UP IN WORK

Health Officials Caution People Not to Relax in Observing Precautions.

Statistics indicate that the epidemic in this city took a distinct drop for the better the first of this week; though the deaths on the first day numbered at least seventeen. From the effects of Spanish influenza or complications of pneumonia there were thirty-eight deaths on the 15th, twenty-eight on the 16th, twenty-five on the 17th, twenty-five on the 18th, twenty-five on the 19th and seventeen on the 20th. It is likely that reports for the next few days will increase the account of actual deaths on the 20th to nineteen or twenty, but at that, improvement in the situation, therefore, appears better; but danger is not yet over, according to health officials, throughout the lands afflicted.

LESS CASES OF MALADY REPORTED FROM CAMPS

Deaths Wednesday Totaled 127, With 2,733 New Cases Reported.

FOUR STATES SHOW LESS CASES

Government Agents Investigate Reports Germs Were Brought Here by German Agents, and Claim They Are Found Untrue.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, October 23.—Continued improvement in the influenza situation in army camps and in a number of States was shown by reports received to-day by the surgeon-general of the army and the public health service.

POWER OF PEACE OR WAR EFFECTIVE AFTER LEAGUE OF NATIONS FORMS.

CHANCELLOR GIVES VIEWS

No Thought Advanced of Retro- cession of Alsace-Lorraine to France.

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ARMY ARISTOCRATS HOLD FAST TO NEW RIGHTS

How the French Newspapers Regard Latest German Note to President Wilson

Prince of Baden speaks in his note subject to repudiation in case the military situation should change.

Several papers insist that the enemies main purpose is to cause friction between the allies while waiting time for the military retreat to a shorter line.

SHIPPING BOARD PLANS FOR 600 WOODEN SHIPS

Yards Which Fail to Keep Up the Pace in Production Will Have Contracts Abrogated and Trans- ferred to Speedier Plants.

WASHINGTON, October 23.—Read- justment of the wood-shipping program with a preliminary conference to-night, attended by Chairman Hurley and Vice- President of the Board, for the Emergency Fleet Corporation, Director-General Schwab. To-morrow their recommen- dations will be presented to the trust- tees of the Shipping Board.

MAJOR ATTACK IMPENDING. BELIEF OF OFFICIALDOM

German War Office Reports Show Intensity of Effort to Break Admit Advances.

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DEMILITARIZATION OF ARMY DISCUSSED BY HUSSAREK

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WILL ROUND UP SLACKERS IN TIDEWATER REGION

Conference Held in Norfolk Results in Drastic Steps Being Taken.

NORFOLK, Va., October 23.—At a conference of men representing all classes and practically every section of Tidewater Virginia, held at the chamber of commerce this afternoon, the question of the slackers was discussed.

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